

Message from the Director

February may only be 28 days, but it certainly was a busy 28 days. Planning, exercising, response and recovery are the foundations of public safety and these building blocks were put to the test this month.

The month started with a historic winter storm that blanketed our state with record-shattering temperatures. Before the storm hit, Governor JB Pritzker took swift action to direct the State Emergency Operations Center to work with state agencies and local emergency management officials to ensure the appropriate resources were readily available for Illinois residents as the life-threatening storm took aim on our state. This storm would prompt nearly three hundred people to visit emergency rooms across our state suffering from frostbite or hypothermia, and three Illinoisans would lose their lives due to the extreme weather conditions. This storm taught us the importance of neighbors helping neighbors. Statistics show 46-percent of individuals expect to rely a great deal on people in their neighborhood for assistance within the first 72-hours of any disaster. When a community comes together, neighbor-helping-neighbor, we can often meet the needs of everyone.

Shortly after that event, our attention turned to Aurora as an evil act of workplace violence caught national headlines. Five innocent civilians were killed and five heroic police officers were injured as they ran towards danger at the Henry Pratt Company. The officers who responded to this deadly scene were trained to deal with these events. In today's world, training and preparedness will be the key to enhancing the safety of our communities. As your state's Homeland Security Advisor, I am pleased to see Governor Pritzker make strengthening our communities a cornerstone of his inaugural Budget Address. The unspeakable act of violence in Aurora serves as a stark reminder of the importance of a rigorous investment in public safety. I look forward to working with you and our various public safety partners to ensure a safe and resilient state for future generations to come.



In this issue

Meet the Deputy Director	2
IEMA Night	3
Clinton Exercise	4
Flood Tours	4
AmeriCorps Week.....	5
IEMA Summit Proposals	5
FEMA Youth Council	6
Severe Weather Preparedness Month.....	6
Comings and Goings.....	7
Radon Contest Deadlines.....	7
March Training Dates.....	8
Flood Safety Awareness Week	9

Meet IEMAs New Deputy Director

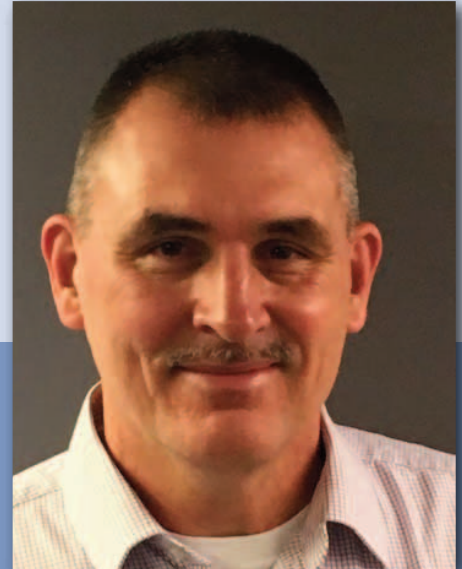
Scott R. Swinford has been hired to serve as Deputy Director of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. Swinford is an Illinois native with more than 30 years of experience in the Illinois National Guard. During his tenure with the Guard, Swinford was heavily involved in counter-terrorism program and emergency preparedness response planning at the state and national levels.

Upon leaving military service, Swinford assumed the role of Division Chief for Disaster

Planning and Readiness for the Illinois Department of Public Health. For two years, he was responsible for oversight of \$20M in federal grant funding programs Illinois hospitals and health departments for the purpose of increased emergency medical preparedness throughout the state.

Swinford holds a Bachelors (Psychology) and Master's Degree (Business Administration) from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, a second

Master's Degree (Strategic Studies) from the United States Army War College, and he is currently working on his Doctorate (Public Administration) from University of Illinois Springfield.



About Scott Swinford:

What are three interesting facts about you?

- I'm deeply involved in Boy Scouting.
- I start putting my Christmas Lights up every year on Columbus Day.
- Served for four years on the Illini Bluffs School Board near Peoria; last year as Board President.

What's the best piece of advice you ever received?

- Family first!! I know it to be true that few go to the grave wishing they had worked more.

What's the last adventure you went on?

- Last summer, I backpacked 65 miles of the Centennial Trail near Mt. Rushmore with 10 Scouts. The winter before we dog-sledded

from northern Minnesota into Canada. The Spring before that we canoed the Louisiana Bayou, and the summer before that we went SCUBA diving in the Florida Keys.

If you didn't have to sleep, what would you do with the extra time?

- Finish my dissertation!

What are some small things that make your day better?

- Team interaction and debate
- A can of Diet Mt. Dew
- A bag of peanut M&Ms

Emergency Management Caucus

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency now has a group of lawmakers who have committed to taking an interest in public safety and preparedness. Acting Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau recently hosted a special evening event for members of the 101st General Assembly where our state elected officials got an opportunity to learn more about the work we do at the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.

As our guests arrived at IEMA Headquarters in Springfield, they witnessed an impressive outdoor display of equipment and technology used to coordinate a strategic deployment of state resources to aide in the immediate response of any man-made or natural disaster.

Once inside, guests walked through hands-on displays of every aspect of the Agency. From radiation detection equipment and earthquake hazard demonstrations to flood mitigation projects and

emergency preparedness tools, lawmakers were educated about the role our staff plays to keep the public safe in times of emergency and prepared for the next disaster.

This event also served as an excellent showcase of the strength of our mutual aid network and the partnerships we have with the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS), Illinois Emergency Services Management Association (IESMA) and Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). These partnerships are critical to the response and recovery of any mission in the state of Illinois and beyond.

IEMA looks forward to working with the Emergency Management Caucus and the 101st Illinois General Assembly as we continue to educate decision makers on how to help our local communities respond, recover and prepared for disasters in Illinois.

“All disasters start and end locally”

-Alicia Tate-Nadeau, IEMA Acting Director



(Upper left and lower left) Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton, Representative Kathleen Willis and Representative Jonathan Carroll tour the Illinois Emergency Management Agency's Unified Area Command vehicle. This mobile emergency operations center is often deployed to state emergencies to expedite response and recovery missions. (Center) Representative Tim Butler explains to the group of assembled lawmakers why he felt it was important to co-chair the Emergency Management. (Above Right) Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton thanks members of the Illinois Emergency Management Caucus for their commitment to public safety.

Clinton Exercise

In the event of a radiological accident at any of the nuclear power stations in Illinois, or any incident involving the actual or potential release of radiation to the environment, IEMA will activate the Illinois Plan for Radiological Accidents (IPRA). IPRA is a cooperative effort between state agencies, local governments and private organizations designed to ensure any radiological accident is quickly and accurately evaluated and the appropriate response to and recovery from any accident are effectively coordinated.

An exercise to test the emergency response plans for the area surrounding the Clinton Nuclear Power Station is scheduled for Tuesday, March 19th. Emergency response personnel from the State of Illinois, DeWitt

County, Macon County, McLean County, Piatt County and Exelon will participate in the exercise. These counties represent the local units of government within a ten-mile radius of the plant. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will evaluate the units of government during the exercise to test personnel mobilization, facility activation, as well as direction, control and protective action decision making.

Additional information about the emergency plans for the Clinton Nuclear Power Station can be found online at www.ready.illinois.gov. If you can also contact IEMA if you wish to schedule a training session for your staff to enhance your company's emergency preparedness plans.

2019 Flood Preparedness Workshops

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency joined officials with the National Weather Service and U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to discuss flood preparedness for 2019. Drainage and levee district officials were on-hand to learn more about the flooding outlook for 2019 and the services available by state and federal officials in the event flooding were to threaten our communities. Workshops were held in Jacksonville, Alton, Waterloo, Metropolis, Peoria and Moline.



Mona Callis, Planning and Training Specialist for IEMA Region 8



Jennifer Wilson, Program Manager, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers



Alicia Tate-Nadeau, Acting Director Illinois Emergency Management Agency

“Get Things Done” During AmeriCorps Week

March 10 – 16, 2019 is a weeklong celebration of all things AmeriCorps. Join us as we honor the programs and organizations that make this national service initiative possible. Since the program’s inception in 1994, millions of volunteers have gained invaluable experience by pledging to “Get Things Done.”

AmeriCorps offers a variety of service opportunities from the classroom to the outdoors and everything in between. AmeriCorps members have made a significant impact on the nation’s ability to meet the needs of many. These citizens play a critical role in the recovery of catastrophic storms, like Hurricanes Harvey, Maria, Michael and Florence, but they also tutor and mentor the next generation. AmeriCorps

members strengthen our communities by engaging in service projects at the local, regional and national level to address critical community needs.

If your community or organization has been touched by AmeriCorps, please share your story. During the week of March 10-16, use the hashtag [#MadeInAmeriCorps](#) as you explain the impact these volunteers have had on your community or organization.

No matter what you are passionate about, find time to do good. To learn more about opportunities with AmeriCorps, visit [AmeriCorps.gov](#).

A promotional graphic for AmeriCorps Week. It features the AmeriCorps logo on the left, which is a circular seal with an 'A' and a star. To the right of the logo is the word 'AMERICORPS' in large, bold, white letters. Below this is a red banner with the text '★ GET THINGS DONE FOR AMERICA ★'. The background is a silhouette of a person in a hard hat and safety vest, holding a tool, standing in a field with mountains in the distance. Four statistics are displayed in large, bold, white letters: '1 MILLION members since 1995', '1.9 MILLION community volunteers mobilized in 2017', '1.4 BILLION hours served by members', and '\$1 BILLION resources leveraged each year from other sources'. At the bottom, the website 'NATIONALSERVICE.GOV' is written in white.

AMERICORPS
★ GET THINGS DONE FOR AMERICA ★

1 MILLION
members since 1995

1.9 MILLION
community volunteers mobilized in 2017

1.4 BILLION
hours served by members

\$1 BILLION
resources leveraged each year from other sources

NATIONALSERVICE.GOV

Call for Presentations 2019 IEMA Training Summit

IEMA currently is seeking proposals for presentations at the 2019 IEMA Summit, which will be held Sept. 3-5 at the Bank of Springfield Center (formerly known as the Prairie Capital Convention Center) in Springfield.

- All proposals must be submitted by May 3 to be considered.
- Each breakout session will last 60 minutes and should include time for questions and answers.
- All proposals will be submitted via Survey Monkey using this link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2019SummitCFP>



Seeking Youth Leaders for National Youth Preparedness Council

FEMA is currently accepting applicants for the Youth Preparedness Council. This program brings teens together from across the country who are interested and engaged in community preparedness. Council members are selected based on their dedication to public service, their efforts in making a difference in their communities and their potential to expand their impact as national leaders for emergency preparedness. Students in 8th through 11th grade are eligible to apply.

Formed in 2012, the Youth Preparedness Council offers opportunity for youth leaders to serve on a distinguished national council and participate in the Youth Preparedness Council Summit in Washington, D.C. During their two-year term, the youth leaders will complete both a local and national-level project and

share their ideas regarding youth disaster preparedness with FEMA leadership and national organizations.



FEMA

Youth interested in applying to the Council must submit a completed application form, provide two letters of recommendation, and academic records. All applications and supporting materials must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. PST, March 31. New council members will be announced in May.

To access the application materials, read about the current Council members, and for more general information about the Youth Preparedness Council visit www.ready.gov/youth-preparedness-council.

March is Severe Weather Preparedness Month

As a record number of tornado outbreaks in December clearly demonstrated, severe weather can happen at any time of the year. To help people better prepare for weather emergencies, IEMA and local emergency management agencies will be promoting Severe Weather Preparedness Month throughout March.

The National Weather Service and state and local emergency management officials strongly encourage people to have a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) All Hazards Weather Radio with battery backup. These radios can be programmed to receive alerts for specified counties to keep you and your family apprised of impending weather and post-event information for all types of hazards including natural (earthquakes), environmental (chemical spills) and public safety hazards (AMBER alerts). When an alert is issued for the programmed area, the device will sound a warning alarm tone followed by the essential information.

"Having a weather alert radio in your home can save your life," said Acting Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau. "Much like a smoke detector or carbon monoxide



detector, these devices can alert you while you are sleeping in order to give you the time you need to get your family to safety."

In this day and age of families constantly on the go, it is critical for people to have multiple ways to receive notifications and updated information about severe weather warnings. FEMA offers a FREE mobile app that provides fast and reliable weather alerts from the National Weather Service (NWS). The app can be tailored to offer alerts for up to five different locations nationwide. The mobile app can also help you locate open shelters and disaster resource centers near you in the event of an emergency.

For more information about how to survive before, during and after a storm, please visit Ready.Illinois.gov. There you'll find a Severe Weather Preparedness Guide, developed by IEMA and NWS, which provides tips on how to prepare for all weather emergencies. Additional tips and information are available on the Ready Illinois Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ReadyIllinois) and Twitter page (www.twitter.com/ReadyIllinois).

COMINGS & GOINGS

at IEMA



COMING: Doug Downey has been named the new Regional Coordinator for Region Eight. Downey will help facilitate solutions and oversee operations in 11 counties in the Metro-East.



GOING: Please join us as we wish Region Nine Regional Coordinator Steve Simms all the best in his retirement. Simms spent 19-years working for the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. During that time, he was

involved in countless projects, deployed multiple times throughout the state and his input was always invaluable. We will truly miss his professionalism, dedication and commitment to public safety.



Radon Video Contest

<https://bit.ly/2CV0oQ9>

Deadline March 1, 2019

Radon Poster Contest

<https://bit.ly/2RccS9M>

Deadline March 8, 2019

March 2018 Training Schedule

CERT TTT

Location: Westmont Fire Department HQ Station-
Lower Level
6015 S Cass Ave
Westmont IL 60559

Date: March 5-6, 2019

Course Description: This two-day course is for individuals who have attended a local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) course and would like to become trainers for their local program. This course is also for those communities and organizations that would like to start a CERT program on their own and need a trainer in order to do so. This course does not take the place of attending the 20-hour CERT program offered at the local level as it does not teach the basic CERT concepts-it is intended that the attendee already know the CERT training and program. CERT Train-the-Trainer is designed for the individual who already has knowledge of the CERT curriculum and needs further instructional knowledge and state certification. The course includes preparation for teach-back to the class as an after-hours homework assignment on Day 1 and delivering teach-back to the group on Day 2.

Registration: Michelle Hanneken P:(217)524-2251,
michelle.j.hanneken@illinois.gov

Incident Command Systems 300 (ICS 300)

Location: Williamson Co, Administration Building
407 N Monroe
Marion IL 62959

Date: March 13-14, 2019

Course Description: This course provides training on and resources for personnel who require advanced application of the Incident Command System(ICS). The target audience includes all individuals who may assume a supervisory role in expanding incidents. This course expands upon information covered in ICS 100 and 200 courses. (Both are pre-requisites for ICS 300.) The course also allows those identified personnel, including public health personnel, to comply with ICS

level 300 training. This is a requirement for those jurisdictions that choose to comply with the National Incident Management System(NIMS) to ensure they continue receiving their federal preparedness funding grants. We are recommending that jurisdictions identify middle management who are going to be acting in the role of incident commander or section chief during an event to take the IS 300 course.

Registration:

<https://public.iema.state.il.us/iema/Training/OnlineRegistration/classes.asp>

G557 Rapid Needs Assessment

Location: LaSalle County EMA
711 E Etna Rd
Ottawa IL 61350

Date: March 20, 2019

Course Description: This course provides information and resources that will enable participants to plan an effective Damage Assessment Program and conduct rapid and effective damage assessments in order to save lives, protect property and the environment, and begin the process of recovery and mitigation.

Registration:

<https://public.iema.state.il.us/iema/Training/OnlineRegistration/classes.asp>

Principles of Emergency Management

Location: State Regional Office-Marion
2309 W Main St
Marion IL 62959

Date: March 26, 2019

Course Description: This one-day course is designed to be a formal introduction to emergency management. The needs for an emergency management system and the importance of an integrated approach to managing emergencies are examined. Participants formulate the elements of an integrated teamwork system and devise specific actions for improving their own contributions to local emergency management teams. During the course, participants are exposed to the five basic concepts of emergency management: mitigation, prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. The role of the emergency manager and the impact they have on their community is discussed in great detail.

Registration:

<https://public.iema.state.il.us/iema/Training/OnlineRegistration/classes.asp>



Flood Safety Awareness Week: March 11-15, 2019

Nearly every day, flooding happens somewhere in the United States. Flooding can cause more damage than any other weather-related event. Good preparation and knowing what to do in a flood can increase chances of survival when a flood occurs in your area.

"We are monitoring rivers and streams across the state, and working with local governments to ensure Illinoisans are prepared for potential flooding this spring," said Acting IEMA Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau. "Now is the time for all homeowners to prepare for potential flooding. Be aware of the flood risks in your community and know the steps to take to keep your family safe in the event of an emergency."

One of the most important safety tips during a flood is, "Turn Around, Don't Drown," which is intended to remind people to never drive on a flooded road. Most flood-related fatalities involve people in vehicles attempting to drive through a road covered with water. The speed and depth of the water is not always obvious, and as little as two feet of rushing water can sweep away most vehicles, including trucks and SUVs.

Flood preparedness tips include:

- Develop a family emergency plan and review it with all family members.

- Maintain an emergency supply kit with bottled water, non-perishable food, first-aid items, flashlight, radio, batteries and more.
- Stay aware of weather conditions in your area, particularly if you live or work in areas known to flood.
- Make an itemized list of your personal property. Include photos and/or videos of the inside and outside of your home. Store these documents in a safe location away from your home.
- Consider purchasing flood insurance, since flood losses are not covered under homeowners' insurance policies.

For more information about flood preparedness, visit the Ready Illinois website at www.Ready.Illinois.gov.



Don't Miss Important IEMA Information

Did you know - IEMA's website enables you to receive the latest news from IEMA as soon as it is posted. You can subscribe to the RSS feed for IEMA press releases at <http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/PressReleases.aspx>.

You will need a third-party RSS reader/aggregator software. There are many options to choose from ranging from web-based to mobile apps. If you are

using Microsoft Exchange, you can simply right click on the "RSS Feeds" folder and select "Add a new RSS Feed," then insert the address of the RSS feed.

Some browsers will have a "subscribe" link at the top of the page automatically. Clicking this link will add the subscription to a "Feeds" section of your browser's favorites or bookmarks.

Previous issues of Inside IEMA are available at:

<http://www.illinois.gov/iema/Info/Pages/Newsletters.aspx>.



State of Illinois
Illinois Emergency Management Agency

For more information on this newsletter, contact:

Rebecca Clark (Rebecca.B.Clark@Illinois.gov)